ASA-1111-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application:

M. MOCHIZUKI et al Serial No. 10/366,360

Filed: February 14, 2003

Group Art Unit:

2652

Examiner:

R. Tupper

For:

MAGNETIC HEAD FOR PERPENDICULAR RECORDING AND MAGNETIC DISK STORAGE

APPARATUS MOUNTING THE HEAD

REQUEST FOR CONTINUATION APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)

MS: Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 30, 2004

Sir:

This is a request for filing a continuation application under 37 CFR §1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 10/366,360, filed on February 14, 2003, entitled MAGNETIC HEAD FOR PERPENDICULAR RECORDING AND MAGNETIC DISK STORAGE APPARATUS MOUNTING THE HEAD, by all of the inventors named in the prior application.

 Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, including the Declaration as originally filed.





2. The Filing Fee is calculated below:

CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT PLUS ANY CLAIMS ADDED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Basic Fee \$ 770.00 Total Claims 21 20 1 x 18 18.00 Independent Claims 3 3 0 x 86 0.00 Total Filing Fee \$ 788.00

- 3. A credit card payment form including the amount of \$1046.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.
- 4. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.
- 5. New drawings are enclosed, twelve (12) sheets, Figs. 1-10.
- 6. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293 Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174 Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663 Daniel J. Stanger, Registration No. 32,846 Gene W. Stockman, Registration No. 21,021.

There is no change in the correspondence address.

Address all future correspondence to:

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C. 1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 684-1120

Please associate this application with Customer No. 24956.

7. The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Ltd.

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10. Priority of the following Japanese Application is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:

No. 2002-331534, filed November 15, 2002.

The certified priority document has been filed in the parent application.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed in the present continuation application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 10/366,360 as originally filed.

Daniel J. Stanger Registration No. 32,846

Attorney of Record

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C. 1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 Telephone: (703) 684-1120 Facsimile: (703) 684-1157

Date: January 30, 2004